



LORD OF HOSTS

Is devoted to variant Diplomacy. In these pages will be found Miller numbers and designators, variant game announcements and results, occasional articles and editorials, and (given a game fee of \$3.00 per player, in addition to maintaining a trade or subscription) games of variant Diplomacy. The price for subscriptions and back issues will be cost plus postage, with allowance for losses and rounded up to the nickel so that I can produce additional copies. Offers to trade will be considered.

Issues will be published at least quarterly, depending on material and games. Miller numbers will be assigned on the receipt of gamemaster's name, address, magazine, year of game start, name of variant, and list of players and countries; the publication of Miller numbers in this journal is subsidized by the IDA. Anyone may reproduce an issue in its entirety; partial reprinting is permitted upon attribution, except for articles by other authors who herewith retain full rights to their own material. This entire effort is yours courtesy of Robert Sacks, 4861 Broadway, Apt 5-V, NY NY 10034, (212) 942-3572.

Member: AWA, DVC, IDA, NY MWGA, TDA, TIDA-RNY.

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CONTENTS

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Cover Page - Colophon; Contents; Possible COA; Address & Status

1 - Diplomacy Variant Commission; The Wonderful World of Variants

2 - The Haas Affair (The Wonderful World of Variants continued)

3 - The Downfall of the Lord of the Rings and the Return of the King II

4 - Game Results

5 - Known Game Openings; New Variants

6 - Miller Numbers and New Designators Assigned; New Variants (continued)

SUPPLEMENTS: The 1976 Gemignani Awards List and Teller's Report/Commentary;

Flyers (there is an admission charge and rental charge at THE BATTLEGROUND)

Some corrections to last issue's Possible COA: While I still don't know whether I will go on active duty for training, if I do it will be September through December at HQ AFRES/2852 ABG (JAG)/Robins AFB Georgia. I am very sorry I can't be more specific, but except for that detail of location (more information next issue) there will be no change in MN operations at all. As can be seen next page, the office of Secretary of DVC and custody of Phoenix has already been handed over to Ray Heuer - Fred Davis is his back-up.

() See page:

() Last issue.

() This is your

ans:

Am't remaining in

() Remnd now!

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FIRST CLASS

NY NY 10034
4861 Broadway, 5-V
Robert E Sacks, MNG
LAWYER OF RECORDS

DIPLOMACY VARIANT COMMISSION

1

Raymond Heuer/102-42 Jamaica Ave/Richmond Hill NY 11418 (Secr, TDA VO, AMNC/O&S)
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Fred Davis/3012 Oak Green Ct/Ellicott City Md 21043 (Recat Chmn, Vice Secr)
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Robert Sacks/4861 Broadway, 5-V/NY NY 10034 (MNC)

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF VARIANTS

As can be seen, there has been a reorganization of variant offices. I should especially like to advertise the Variant Orphan Rescue Service headed by Ray Heuer and Jeremy Maiden, the Miller Number Recategorization Committee by Fred Davis, Ferkin Doyle's Variant Playtesting Service, and Jeremy Maiden's Variant Design Panel.

In addition to his appointment as Associate MNC for Orphans in Europe, Jeremy Maiden has just accepted the appointment for Associate MNC for Europe, filling the vacancy caused first by Michel Feron dropping out of the hobby and then Steve Doubleday apparently resigning. After a delay of over a year we should shortly see more European MNs.

There is still the as yet never filled position of Special Projects Associate, minimally to serve as Executive Officer to the Recategorization Committee, plus other projects that are presently dormant.

Subscriptions to PHOENIX, the Journal of the DVC, (and membership applications) are welcome - contact Ray Heuer. Selected back issues are available.

Back issues of LORD OF HOSTS through 5&6 are available at 20¢/number plus postage. From LORD OF HOSTS #7 on, it is 25¢/number plus postage.

I have been advised by letter that SF EXPO '76 has been postponed and is to be rescheduled for Nov 25-28 or Dec 27-31. I apologize for any inconvenience my distributing the flyers may have caused; however I will continue to distribute flyers that I receive in sufficient number, and I will continue to plug efforts in the hobby and conventions, at least until I have reason to believe that a particular effort or event is shady.

In that light I am pleased to note that APA-Slobbovia has changed management - the new Archivist is Ray Heuer. I must caution publishers against subscribing or playing until after you have been explicitly advised of your obligations by the Archivist, or come to a satisfactory agreement or understanding, or the present policy of fining publisher non-members is abandoned.

The IDA-DVC Joint Conference Committee has finally met, and several proposals have been agreed to and are being sent up to IDA for approval. The key point is a proposed amendment to the IDA Constitution on variants which would recognize DVC as a self-governing agency with advisory status in IDA and which would establish an elected IDA Variants Secretary with seat on IDA Council and DVC. Other points agreed to (subject to IDA approval) included points on variant banks, variant orphans, the numbers subsidies, awards for variants, and the status of DVC upon federation. I expect that DVC will simply vote to accept the JCC report, as most of this is ancient business in DVC; in IDA I suspect each point will have to be voted on separately, and there is a very real danger that the settlement will be dismembered, or pigeon-holed altogether.

I intend to be at the following wargaming conventions this summer: July 10-11, MIT-SGS SummerCon, Cambridge Mass.; July 23-25, Origins II, Baltimore Maryland; August 28-29, NY MWGA MetroCon, NYC NY. I will be running the Diplomacy Tourney at MetroCon.

On the next page we have The Haas Affair.

To the Editor, DIPLOMACY WORLD

16 March 1976

I am today in receipt of your Vol. 3, No. 1, in which your Variants Editor, Lewis Pulsipher, called at length and in detail for support of the "World Variant Bank", an institution which, in the words of its founding Director, Walter Luc Haas, "is a strictly personal thing, which may work or not, may go on or not, may cooperate or not - only depending on Dave and my private, personal intentions, wishes, efforts etc." (letter, WLH, 20 February 1976) This official advocacy in the official hobby journal of "a strictly personal" effort acting under color of a hobby-wide agency is a betrayal of the trust enjoyed by your journal, though such trusts are apparently rejected by the "World Variant Bank". I would suggest that there is grounds for a public investigation of this "strictly personal" effort for conducting business under false pretences and violation of public trust; for myself, I wish to give public notice that the "World Variant Bank" is expressly denied permission to reprint variants of my design as variant bank reprint permission for such is controlled by the only Variant Bank which recognizes a public trust or obligation, that run by Will Haven (4 Victoria St, Chorley Lancs PR7 2TX UNITED KINGDOM), and urge all other designers to do likewise.

copies

DIPLOMACY REVIEW

DUE PROCESS

LORD OF HOSTS



Robert E. Sacks

(The above letter was not sent on the date written; on the advice of Scott Rosenberg I called up Walter Buchanan instead and obtained a promise that he would look into the matter. It was sent when Pulsipher published Haas' contention (with Verhandeln 8) that my charge of monopolistic or exclusionary policies by the "World Variant Bank" was cover for a power grab; I have received no response since then from Buchanan, Leeder, or Rosenberg, except an apology from Rosenberg on forgetting to publish the letter.)

It is now well over a year since Haas began his exclusion of any British Variant Bank from his personal bank federation - I will not go into all the details. At an early point in this controversy Haas refused to even sell copies of variants to Will Haven, and he may be continuing in that stance to this day. Haas and Pulsipher have both urged that people hand over reprinting rights to the "World Variant Bank" in exclusion of any other bank, and Haas will then deny any and all rights to other banks, now including the North American Variant Bank whose Director, Dave Kadlecik, has been deposed as a Director of "World Variant Bank" by Haas. Of course, these policies of Haas, which are obviously monopolistic and exclusionary to the point of approaching being criminal, are only temporary until he completes his stock and his bank has a copy of all variants (or perhaps merely almost all variants).

Now, in spite of his protests about people publishing false information about his likelihood of dropping out without checking the facts with him first, Haas has published false information about the status of certain actions in DVC without checking first with either myself or Ray Heuer who has taken over as Secretary; while I can find no fault on Patterson's distributing a letter explaining his reasons, however incorrect, for leaving DVC, if Haas had asked for an explanation he would have received one, just as one was given in PHENIX and to Maiden - Patterson is simply all wet on his evaluation of DVC's procedures, as Haas is on his evaluation on the viability of DVC itself. On the poll in question 8 of 11 members voted (3 missed altogether): 6 felt that DVC should exercise authority over projects founded by or delegated to DVC, while one demurred on projects given or taken away and one on the effect this would have if IDA asserted similar authority over DVC; 6 felt that DVC should consider policy or advisory questions, one abstained and one felt the question should be split; all 8 felt that DVC should discuss areas of controversy or of default by variant officers and projects; 6 felt DVC should exchange information to coordinate projects, one abstained and one insisted that this be voluntary. In sum, a pretty unanimous decision to continue and move forward.

1975BJgy

DOWNTIME II

Address Changes

Standbys Needed: 3 Elven Lords, Sauron, and Rohan
GONDOR: Kevin McGee/VMA 224/MAG 14 2nd MAW/MCAS Cherry Point NC 28533
NORTH: Richard Ware/4604 Old Erwin Rd/Durham NC 27705
SAURON: Mike Smolin/21 Strathmore Rd/Brookline Ma 02146

Rule Changes

- Insufficient players: 8 players and a GM is a large number, so in the event that there are fewer than 8 players at the beginning of the game, certain mergers will have to take place; in each case, units of different powers played by the same player do dislodge each other, unless the rules specifically provide otherwise - however, for victory purposes, units of different powers played by the same player are one force.
With only 7 players, the Lord of the Ring (or if there is none, the last person to have been Lord of the Ring) plays Harad-Rhûn.
With only 6, the above, and Rohan plays Gondor (until the Ranger takes over).
With only 5, the above, and Rohan also plays the North.
With only 4, the above, and the Ranger plays the Elven Lords.
In all cases a GM is needed, and he plays the Ents.
- The Balrog (for all future games): On each movement turn while the Balrog exists, Saruman may activate it. If the Balrog is not active, it has no effect that move at all. If the Balrog is active and any Elven Lords pieces or the Nazgûl piece is in Moria, the Balrog mutually annihilates with those pieces (Gandalf, of course, is resurrected) and leaves the game; otherwise the Balrog annihilates any and all other units and pieces in Moria, without regard to alignment or nationality, and, after retreats, deactivates, in the process restoring Moria to Saruman.
- Clarification: Fleets ashore are not dislodged by armies but captured; fleets ashore are dislodged by fleets.
- Ruling Inherited from Downfall I: Pieces supporting a unit move with that unit (on land) whether or not they started in the same space, unless stood-off. That is, pieces support by being there - armies and fleets support as normal.

LORD OF HOSTS #10.1

Apr 1418 SR

GONDOR (McGee) B A Pela.

HARAD-RHÛN (Costikyan) DA NRhû R-SRhû.

NORTH (Ware) B A Iron, A NMir.

SARUMAN (Labelle) B Isen.

SAURON (Morris) NMR. DA NIth Annihilated.

Press: The Riders of Rohan call upon all lawful men and more than men to defend the West against the Red Eye of Mordor, Lord of Carrion Eaters, and his corrupted one-Saruman called the Grey. We shall prepare the world for the return of the White One and defend the land against the growing Darkness. We call upon the lords of Harad-Rhûn not to give aid to the Evil One and his slave Saruman less they become like them.

LORD OF HOSTS #10.2

May 1418 SR

ELVEN LORDS (Bean) NMR. A Fiel h/uo/, A Mori h/uo/, F WesS h/uo/.

GONDOR (McGee) DA MTir S NIth, A Belf-Lame, A Ered h, A NIth h, A Pela-Loss, F Tolf-BayB.

HARAD-RHÛN (Costikyan) F BayB-Anfa, DA SGon h, DA SRhû-NRhû, DA WRhû S SRhû-NRhû.

NORTH (Ware) A Carr S NMir-Mirk, A Dale S NRhû, A Iron S NRhû, A NMir-Mirk, A NRhû h, A NWas S NRhû.

ROHAN (Gemignani) A East-EEmn, A Edor-WEmn, A GapR S Edor-WEmn/disl/, A Helm S Edor-WEmn.

SARUMAN (Labelle) DA WEmn-Helm, A Dunl-GapR, A Ened-Dunl, A Isen S Dunl-GapR.

SAURON (Morris) NMR. TA MTMor h/uo/, DA Dago h/uo/, A Gorg h/uo/, A SNur h/uo/, A Vale h/uo/.

ELVEN LORDS (Bean) A Fiel-Vale, A Mori-Dunl (neutralize),
Gand Mori S Mori-Dunl, F Wess-BayB.
GONDOR (McGee) DA MTir S NIth, F BayB-Anfa, A Ered-Lefn, A Lame S BayB-Anfa
(cut by Dead TA), A Loss-Ithi, A NIth S Loss-Ithi.
HARAD-RHÙN (Costikyan) F Anfa h, DA SGon h, DA SRhù-NRhù, DA WRhù-Brow.
NORTH (Ware) A Carr-Vale, A Dale S NRhù, A Iron S NRhù, A Mirk S Carr-Vale,
A NRhù h, A NWas S NRhù.
ROHAN (Gemignani) A GapR-Ened. A Edor S EEmn-WEmn, A EEmn-WEmn, A Ened-Dunl,
A Helm-GapR/Annh/.
SARUMAN (Labelle) DA WEmn-Helm, A Dunl S GapR/disl/, A GapR S WEmn-Helm,
A Isen-WEmn.
SAURON (Smolin) TA MMor h, DA Dago-Brow, A Gorg h, Nazg Mirk S Dago-Brow,
A SNur h, A Vale S Dago-Brow/disl/.

ADJUSTMENTS FOR SUPPLY

Elv: 3/3. H. No Change.
Gon: 6/6. ~~Aita~~, DAmr, Lebi, MTir, Pela, NIth, Ithi. No Change.
H-R: 5/4. Hara, SRhû, Umba, WRhû, Anfa. Build 1.
Nor: 7/6. H, Carr, NRhû, Vale. Build 1.
Roh: 3/4. East, Edor, GapR, Helm, WEmn. No Change (1 Annihilated).
Sar: 4/4. ~~DM~~, Isen+Isen, WEmn, GapR, Helm. No Change.
Sau: 6/7*. H, Vale. Build 1 (1 short - Build 2 if A Vale Annn or R-Wold or Lori (if Galadriel is there, the retreating army is annihilated)).

LORD OF HOSTS #10.4 Gondor Captures Haradrim Fleet Jul/Aug 1418 SR
ELVEN LORDS (Bean) NMR. A Dunl h/uo/, A Fiel h/uo/, F Wess h/uo/.
GONDOR (McGee) DA MTir S NIth, F BayB S Lame-Anfa, A Ithi S NIth/disl/,
A Lame-Anfa (captures fleet), A Lefn S Lame-Anfa, A NIth h/uo/.
HARAD-RHÙN (Costikyan) B A Hara. F Anfa-BayB/captured/, DA SGon-Ithi,
DA SRhù-NRhù, DA WRhù S SRhù-NRhù, A Hara-Khan.
NORTH (Ware) B A NMir. A Dale S NRhù, A Iron S NRhù, A Mirk S Vale,
A NMir-Carr, A NRhù h, A NWas S NRhù, A Vale S Mirk/disl/.
ROHAN (Gemignani) A Edor S WEmn-Helm/imp/, A Ened-GapR, A WEmn-Helm/disl/.
SARUMAN (Labelle) A Dunl R-Holl. DA Helm-WEmn, A GapR S Helm-WEmn, A Holl-Mori
A Isen S Helm-WEmn.
SAURON (Smolin) A Vale R-Wold. B A DGul, A Udùn. TA MMor h, DA Brow-Vale,
Nazg Brow S Brow-Vale. A DGul S Brow-Vale. A Gorg-Udùn. A SNur h. A Udùn-Dago
A Wold-Fiel

1973CIEC. (1721 II) Zines: The Pouch (to S'23), Carn Dûm. GM: Raymond Heuer A-Stephen Tihor (dro F'26), CD; E-Douglas Dick (dro S'30), Matthew Diller (drew W'30); F-John Boyer (drew W'30); OE-David Hov (dro W'24), Duncan Smith (dro F'26), Paul Rosenzweig (res W'28), Matthew Diller (res W'29), CD; Pol-Bruce Wachtler (res F'27), Peter Berggren; R-Drew McGee (dro F'22), Mike Ritter (res S'24), Robert Goldman (res F'29), CD; Spa-John Stevens (drew W'30).

	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1974 Bew. (Diadochi IV) Zine: <u>Quo Vadis</u> .
A	4	8	8	6	5	4	2	2	2	1	1	GM: Richard Vedder
E	4	5	7	8*	9	10	11	12	12	14*	14*	Carthage-R Beam (res S'17), J Topper (2nd);
F	4	7	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14*	14*	Egypt-R Eckert (res W'13), C Fishman (4th);
OE	5	6	7	7	6	7	4	4	4	3	1	Macedonia-R Tulp (dro W'20), CD (19),
P	4	7	8	8	8	7	8	6	5	5	5	B Chamberlain (3rd); Pergamum-A Fishman
R	4	6	6	6	5	4	4	4*	3	1	1	(6th); Rhodes-C Fishman (res W'13), CD
S	4	5	7	7	8	8	10	10	11	12	14*	(5th); Rome-V Ricci (dro F'20), D Pengelly

(dro Su'16), M Gallow (res Su'13, out W'13); Syria-D Gallagher (res Su'13), M Gallow (dro S'10?), K StAndre (won W'09).

Start	220	219	218	217	216	215	214	213	212	211	210	209	%age	victory
CAR 4	8	10	11	11	13	15	17	19-2	20-3	21-2	21-2	21-2	70	2nd
EGY 3	6	8	7	8	8	8+1	8+2*	8	9	8	7+1	5	25	4th
MAC 3	6	6	7	8	8	11	10	12*+1*	12+1	12	11	12	60	3rd
PER 2	4	6	7	6	6	6	7	7+1	6+2*	4+2	3+2*	0+2	0	6th
RHO 2	3	4*	3	4	4	3*	2	2	1	1	1	1	6	5th
ROM 4	7	9	10+1	10*	8	4	2	-					0	-
SYR 3	6	8	11-1	10	11	12-1	13-2	11	12	14*	17-1	21	105	WINS

KNOWN GAME OPENINGS

5

D Agosta/9 Finlay Pl/Newark NJ 07106 COMMAND/\$2½+\$4/yr: Anarchy, Big Brother's WW III, US

M Bullock/14 Nursery Ave/Halifax W Yorkshire HX3 5S2 UK 1901 AND ALL THAT/60p+ GD £1+.3p/pg+postage: Abstraction, Election

R Christopher/15170 Colombet/San Martin Ca 95046 THE DEMONS HOME/\$1+10/\$1½: YV R Clumm/RR #1/Amesville Oh 45711 QUENDI KHAZAD DUM/\$2 (\$1 if IDA)+GD \$1: Downfall I, YV

G Costikyan/1675 York Ave/NY NY 10028 THE POCKET MONGOLIAN BASTARD SON OF POUCH/ \$1+8/\$2 (send money to J Paulson/63-60 98th St, C19/Rego Park NY 11374): Excommunication! II

F Davis/3012 Oak Green Ct/Ellicott City Md 21043 BUCHWACKER/\$7: Abstraction, Atlantica II-R

L Gillespie/23 Robert Allen Dr/Halifax NS CANADA B3M 3G9 ZEPPELIN/\$2+12/\$2: War in the Air

R Goldman/200 Old Army Rd/Scarsdale NY 10583 THE MORAVIAN GAZETTE/10/\$2: Utter Chaos

B Grossman/29 E 9 St 9/NY NY 10003 THE PREDAWN LEFTIST/8/\$2+/\$2: ME VIII, Stellar Conquest; \$3: Colonia

A Gruen/470 North St/Harrison NY 10528 DYNASTY/\$2+12/\$2½: Galactic Conquest

B Hartwig/5030 N 109 St/Longmont Co 80501 PODUNK NEWS/\$2: Napoleon's Europe

D Head/Box 1231/Huntsville ONT CANADA POA 1KO ARRAKIS/\$2+1¢/pg+postage: Antigoni Isles

M Homeier/238 N Bowling Green Way/Los Angeles Ca 90049 THE MASTER MACHIAVELLIAN: \$1½+10/\$2.30: Colonia II

R Jonsson/Box 176/S-98101 Kiruna 1 SWEDEN POLAR KNIGHT/postage (use ISE/Birsan): Foundation

D Kadlecik/1447 Sierra Creek Way/San Jose Ca 95132 SPECULUM/8/\$2 or 17/\$4+GD \$1+/-0-: Scacchomacy; \$1: Chinese; \$1½: Sword & Sorcery

M Muchnik/2520 Hyacinth Ct/Westbury NY 11590 VALINOR/\$1+10/\$1½: ME V

G Neiger/Box 4293/Brown Univ/Providence RI 02912 THE POUCH/\$5 or \$1+10/\$2: Excalibur

R Prévot/14 ave Théophile Gautier/75016 Paris FRANCE VORTIGERN/GD 20fr+10/10fr: (French speaking/en français) 1885, Interstellar, Multiplicity

R Walkerdine/43 Chapel Grove/Addlestone Weybridge Surrey KT15 1UG UK MAD POLICY/ 60p (40p if IDA)+7½p/issue+postage (2/\$1 airmail to NA): Multiplicity

R Ware/4604 Old Erwin Rd/Durham NC 27705 VOINSKIJ DOKIAD/\$1+GD \$1+6/60¢: (issues in Russian and Interlingua available by special arrangement) Brinksmanship, Colonia III, Downfall II, Excommunication!, Jihad II

C White/1 Turnberry Ave/Toronto ONT CANADA M6N 1P6 JANUS/\$2½ (\$2 if IDA)+1¢/pg+ postage: Punic Wars

R Zaccalini/23861 Park Belmonte/Calabasos Ca 91302 THE DIPLOMACY BARON/\$2+GD \$1+ 10/\$3: Anonymity, Global

NEW VARIANTS - Editorial Commentary

Some guidelines: Any rule/house rule constitutes a variant which alters: the rules of adjudication; the rules of administration so as to change the knowledge which players receive (from the GM) in preparing their orders (not just the rate or schedule of receipt; the perceptions of the players so as to effect diplomacy.

Hoaxes and other Atrocious Variants

Scheisskopf 6-Player (James Fenimore Whyte, Janus #20)

Strip 4 or 6 Player (Fred C Davis Jr, Bushwacker Vol V #6)

Rather Silly (Jeremy Maiden, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #15)

Finlandia (David Head, Arrakis #56)

Railroads (Robert Stimmel, discussions in Speculum)

also, many bad ideas (and a few good ones) in He's Dead, Jim! that don't seem to be ready for review (which makes sense, since that's a design zine)

And now for the better material

1976Fgq (Nuclear Holocaust: World War III), Skip Allen, --. Arg-Tom Carr, Aus'l-John Weswig, Bra-John Schaaf, Can-Steve Spoulos, Chi-Gerard StGermain, Col-David Grabar, Egy-Thomas George, Fra-John Reid, Mau-Gordon Anderson, Mex-Andy Phillips, Nig-Bill Smith, Phi-Johanne Baumgardener, Rus-Jack Watson, S.Afr-Dick Berg, USA-Gerarl Huang, W.Ger-Larry Yeargan, Yug-Larry Beavers.

1976Ghe (Diadochi V), Dick Vedder, Quo Vadis. Carthage-Bruce Chamberlain, Egy-JFR Peters, Macedonia-Greg Brown, Rome-Ken StAndre, Syr-Carl Fishman. (orphaned)

1976Hhf (Triumvirate), Dick Vedder, Quo Vadis. Caesar-Ken StAndre, Crassus-Greg Brown, Egy-Bruce Chamberlain, Pompey-Carl Fishman, Senate-JFR Peters. (orphaned)

1976Ihg (Imperator), Dick Vedder, Quo Vadis. Afr-Carl Fishman, Danube-Ken StAndre, Emperor-Greg Brown, Rhine-Bruce Chamberlain, Syr-JFR Peters. (orphaned)

he. Diadochi V (Dick Vedder, Quo Vadis #57-8) }
hf. Triumvirate " " } one map, different rules
hg. Imperator " " }

1976Jbu (YV II), William Clumm, Quendi Khazad Dum. A-Willard Lape, C-John Sokol, E-Bruce Chamberlain, F-John Stevens, G-Philip Chester, In-Steve Treso, I-Patrick Stevens, J-Lloyd Shatkin, R-Karl Schuetz, T-Gary Behnen.

1976Khh (Home Sweet Home), John Gross, Janus. A-Kevin Adams, E-Andy Webber, F-Fred Meredith, G-Neville Ceough, I-Jim Klotz, R-Dave Anschuetz, T-James Hymas.

hh. Home Sweet Home (John Gross, Arrakis #39)

NEW VARIANTS (continued - "the better material")

he-g. Diadochi V/Triumvirate/Imperator (Dick Vedder, Quo Vadis #57-8). One map, one game system, 3 scenarios, very well done. Standard Vedder map, double, triple (Rome), and special home centers, loans, limitation on building more than 2 fleets at a time, bridges across certain straits, special political and purge rules for the last 2 scenarios, and Barbarian and Persian rules.

hh. Home Sweet Home (John Gross, Arrakis #39). During the first two game years, additional home centers can be obtained. The first player to occupy a neutral center on a fall turn the first two years gains it as a home center. Original home centers are transferred the first two years if occupied and supported in place by at least one unit more than would otherwise be needed for at least one season. Amusing.

Diplomatic (Martin Janta-Polczynski, Bushwacker Vol V #6). A player does not own (for purpose of builds, victory condiction, or recognition) a supply center he has occupied for as long as a majority of the players owning a majority of the supply centers (double majorities) send in non-recognition orders each winter. The effects on the former owner of the supply center were not specified.

Norman Europe (Gerald Drews, supplement to Paroxysm #28). An interesting 7-player historical variant which still needs some work. The powers are arranged intriguingly with the Normans split between England and southern Italy and the buffer zones between powers laden with centers. There is one triple-coasted province unnoticed in the rules and several unmentioned double-coasted ones. I am completely mystified by some of the decisions as to which provinces are supply centers, but I suspect it has to do with considerations of play rather than history.

Balkan Wars (David Schwartz, Asmodeus! #2). A 7-player farce among the mini-powers who really gave us WW I, not quite ready for player as it lacks rules regarding landlocked powers, the obvious canals and straits, &c. There are 19 land provinces and 19 of them are supply centers; victory condition is to control 7 of them for two successive turns. (available from David Schwartz, 569 South Springfield Ave. Springfield NJ 07081)

Lemurian (S Gunnell, Tau Ceti #9). An economic variant with armies, heroes, and magicians; this is not a magic variant - magicians seem to be heroes of a type who don't allow other magicians in the same space. Two of the players cannot communicate with each other prior to intial builds, one of whom may not magicians, and the other may not hire heroes, while the remaining two players players are limited to 4 magicians each at a time. There are three different types of supply centers with differing income and properties - one, the native centers, are hostile to magicians and if left alone build double armies to resist the players. Perhaps playable. (Tau Ceti is available from L A Dunning, 46 Holmesdale Rd, West Midland 6056 W AUSTRALIA)

Cannibalism (Jeremy Maiden, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #15). A group of people are stranded on a desert island which can support one person (advanced version - one couple, male-female) and so during the game they kill and eat each other until only the winner (winning couple) is left. Three moves out of six are at night, and therefore secret, and there are rules governing a secret knife and secret caves, sleep, combat, food value, and division of spoils. It should be highly amusing, especially as stabs are rather final.

Ideology (Jeremy Maiden, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #17). A political variants allegedly bascd on Parlement, distantly resembling Greg Costikyan's unpublished Tammany Hall. Of course part of the rules (captives) is confused, but basically each player buys popular support in various spaces in an attempt to gain $\frac{1}{2}$ of the population, at which point he can attempt a successful coup; the owner of a space can arrest opposition, and can defeat a coup if he has sufficient men. Actual ownership of a space yields revenue, so you can train additional men and send them out to subvert a neighboring territory or defend your own. Support is an option; popular support is secret. Movement of Leaders is public; of Agents and Spies secret - since Spies cost less, can do anything an Agent can, and can in addition determine the number of men in a faction in a space, I suspect more Spies will be trained than Agents - especially since the only advantage an Agent has (of not immediately disappearing after a revolution) is lost if the Agent is captured or arrested.

Deluge (Timothy Sharrock, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #17). As Europe sinks slowly into the sea, province by province, the population (and hance supply centers?) move inland. The schedules seem a little strange or perhaps incomplete, as the game does not seem to match its description. Why do we need another board-changing variant?

Tunnel (Jeremy Maiden, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #17). An economic variant, where money has to be moved to the supported unit; money can also be used to build and maintain shafts and tunnels, through which money and armies may be moved, the latter at double speed. Shows prospects of being highly amusing.

Courier (Jeremy Maiden, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #18). An extraordinary variant, even if he doesn't like it himself - perhaps I've seen, or thought of, something similar. Instead of an ordinary build, 4 couriers with double-speed but no combat value may be built. Each player has a leader who has no combat value but may give orders to couriers and units in the same space, or adjacent to him, and couriers and units may relay orders and messages to other leaders. Couriers and messages (and perhaps leaders?) may be captured. A player only knows what happens in his leader's immediate vicinity, or what information gets back to him.

Cities in Flight II (Jeremy Maiden, He's Dead, Jim! Vol 3 #18). A monstrosity. Perhaps playable? I suspect a game would go on forever except that every space (or planet) on which the okies land will become depleted pretty rapidly, and (unless there is a conversion rate between raw materials and currency that is missing) without any benefit, so that without the constant introduction of new planets, the game will mercifully run down. Perhaps with a lot of work, a semi-decent space wargame might be developed along these lines, but not this one.

THE 1976 GEMIGNANI AWARDS LIST AND TELLER'S REPORT

In each category the winner will be starred (*), and each candidate who receives 3 or more votes will be listed along with his tally; no write-in received 3 votes, and the Teller is technically ineligible to win an award.

SEVEN MOST INFAMOUS PERSONS IN THE HOBBY

- * Gordon Anderson - 36
- * John Beshara - 24
- * Rodney Walker - 19
- * Edi Birsan - 18
- Robert Sacks - 18
- * Lenard Lakofka - 17
- * John Boardman - 16
- * Lewis Pulsipher - 16
- Ronald Kelly - 15
- Larry Peery - 14
- Richard Kovalcik - 13
- Charles Reinsel - 13
- Walter Buchanan - 11
- Evan Jones - 10
- Conrad von Metzke - 10
- Eric Blake - 9
- Harry Drews - 7
- Scott Rosenberg - 5
- Peter Berggren - 4
- Dave Kadlecik - 4
- John Leeder - 3
- Gary Peterson - 3

PUBLICATION MOST IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

- * Diplomacy Review - 14
- Arrakis - 8
- Graustark - 6
- The Pocket Armenian - 6
- The Mixumaxu Gazette - 5

NEW PUBLICATION MOST IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

- * The Predawn Leftist - 15
- Magna Avis - 8
- Valinor - 5
- Arrakis - 3
- The Moravian Gazette - 3

GM OR PUBLISHER MOST IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

- * Gregory Costikyan - 10
- Scott Rosenberg - 9
- David Gladstein - 7
- Dan Gallagher - 3
- Jeremy Paulson - 3

MOST IRREGULAR GM OR PUBLISHER

- * Nicholas Ulanov - 10
- Daniel Gorham - 7
- John Hulland - 7
- Jeff Key - 4
- Gil Neiger - 3

WORST PRESS SERIES

- * Scott Rosenberg/ Dudland - 13
- Howard Mahler/Downfall of Birsauron - 9
- Mark Zimmermann/ Sherlock Holmes - 6
- Glenn Reed/Da Duce's Diary - 4

WORST REGULAR GAME

- * 1975CM/Exponent - 9
- 1974HB/Arrakis - 7
- 1973JC/Imladris - 4
- 1972DP/Paroxysm - 3

WORST VARIANT GAME

- * 1973CNbu/Carn Dûm - 8
- 1973Hbu/Pellucidar - 7
- 1974Vdq/Runestone - 6
- 1974Yfh/Carn Dûm - 4

WORST VARIANT DESIGN

- * Gemignani 25-player/ Ruinstoned Variant - 19
- Utter Chaos - 13
- Baltic - 3

PLAYER MOST IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT

- * Allan Calhamer - 16
- Ben Grossman - 4
- Scott Rosenberg - 4

LEAST RELIABLE ALLY

- * Ronald Kelly - 8
- Edi Birsan - 7
- Adam Gilinsky - 5
- Harry Drews - 4
- David Head - 3
- Edwyn Jacobs - 3
- Steve Tihor - 3

LEAST MERITORIOUS CONTRIBUTION TO THE HOBBY

- * Gordon Anderson/Trade-marking "DipCon" - 22
- Gary Gygax/Dungeons & Dragons - 9
- Lewis Pulsipher - 7
- Robert Lipton/Reviving Slobbovia - 3

WORST ARTICLE OR COLUMN

- * Lewis Pulsipher/ Verhandeln - 19
- Robert Lipton/McKinley Shot Buffalo - 8

BEST FAKE ISSUE

- * "Ruinstoned 85/ June 30" - 16
- "Paroxysm 4/ April 1" - 15

AWARD FOR DELAY

- * Canadian & American Postal Services - 27
- IDA Council & Calhamer Award Committee - 8
- IDA Publisher's Handbook - 4

AWARD FOR CONFUSION

- * Gregory Costikyan/ NMRing players and using their orders as neutral moves - 13
- Margaret Gemignani - 11
- Lewis Pulsipher - 6
- IDA/Acts of the Council - 4

SPECIAL AWARD

- * Harry Drews/Open Mouth, Exit Drivel - 11
- * IDA/General Meetings which are unable to do business - 11
- * Lenard Lakofka/Most in Need of Minding His Own Business - 11
- Daniel Gorham/The Diplomacy Association, Inc. - 6

Next year: since 4 votes were received protesting the name of the awards, there will be a NAME CONTEST; additional categories will include FINANCIAL IRRESPONSIBILITY, PROCEDURES, and (perhaps) a CRAZIE EDDIE AWARD; we also will expand the system to cover Europe. Nominations for new categories, in all categories, and for naming the awards are due to Robert Sacks by January 31, 1977, together with pledges to publish ballots or serve as European Teller.

More new categories: OUTSTANDING PUPPET, NICE GUY (as in "Nice guys finish last"), (HOBBY) CONVENTION MOST IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT, (HOBBY) ORGANIZATION MOST IN NEED OF IMPROVEMENT.

GEMIGNANI AWARDS TELLER'S COMMENTARY

This year just under 50 people voted (one tried to vote twice!); while this is a slight improvement over last year, it is disappointing that more people didn't vote, so we will try to do even better next year. On the other hand, the nomination process seems to be improving as no write-in received the 3-vote minimum for listing in the published tally.

I should like to point out that several people have accepted Awards with pride, for themselves or close friends (or former friends), and there have been various persons who have actively campaigned to get Awards (not always successfully) and others who have voted for themselves without actively campaigning, so that the situation is not as bad or in any way as vicious as some of the opposition have attempted to paint. Why the IDA Council even declined to instruct its Judicial Committee to investigate us!

I wish to note four categories of opposition to the Awards this year, if only so that all of you can learn the kind of nonsense I have to put up with:

I cannot fault those who have decided that they wish to steer their zines or groups clear of this controversy. There is, however, one newcomer to the hobby who apparently believes he owns the hobby who has called for a publisher boycott, published (or fabricated) anonymous personal attacks, and, while attacking the awards, declined to publish any response on the grounds that he, and therefore his readers, weren't interested. The night-crawlers and small-minded have acquired a new captain.

Then there are the vendors of allegiance, who offer or threaten to change their position if certain changes are made or not. There was one who temporarily muted his public opposition when I accepted the better half of his suggestions on renaming several of the awards, only to resume it when I declined to act upon the lesser half of his suggestions. Then there is one "supporter" of the awards who is withdrawing his support since I did not comply with his demand that I revoke those changes just referred to.

There are still people who believe the ridiculous rumor that Margaret Gemignani opposes these Awards or is somehow insulted by them, and have therefore acted in or voiced partial opposition to the name! If one chooses to believe a falsehood, then no facts will interfere with that belief. As already noted, with next year's ballot we will have a name contest to see if any better name can be found, but if none can be, we will retain the present one.

Finally, there is one representative individual who has changed his mind so many times that I am beginning to suspect that he has no mind at all. His most recent position seems to be that the nomination and election process is rigged, yet he makes no outcry about the way in which the Calhamer Awards, Beyerlein Player Poll, and IDA Elections are conducted; if one is going to protest rigging surely one should start where the process is obviously present, not here where it is scrupulously avoided. But then what can one expect from a person who holds that the Gemignani Awards are fine as a joke, but must be condemned if conducted seriously?

In the face of such opposition, victory is assured, if only we persevere. The Beyerlein Player Poll cut short its sample to rush to publication. The Calhamer Awards have ceased to be elective at all, and there is even talk of the IDA abandoning them altogether. I therefore close with another of the noblest mottoes in the English language (which again must be translated into English) HERE I AM, HERE I REMAIN. See you all next year. GOD SAVE THE TSAR.



Robert Sacks
Gemignani Awards Teller



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